

DKT NO: X06-UWY-CV18046436-S : COMPLEX LITIGATION
ERICA LAFFERTY : JUDICIAL DISTRICT WATERBURY
V. : AT WATERBURY, CONNECTICUT
ALEX EMRIC JONES : AUGUST 2, 2022

DKT NO: X06-UWY-CV186046437-S

WILLIAM SHERLACH
V.
ALEX EMRIC JONES

DKT NO: X06-UWY-CV186046438-S

WILLIAM SHERLACH
V.
ALEX EMRIC JONES

BEFORE THE HONORABLE BARBARA N. BELLIS, JUDGE

A P P E A R A N C E S :

Representing the Plaintiff (s):
ATTORNEY CHRISTOPHER MATTEI
ATTORNEY MATT BLUMENTHAL

Representing the Defendant (s):
ATTORNEY NORMAN PATTIS

Recorded and Transcribed by:
Debbie Ellis
Court Recording Monitor
400 Grand Street
Waterbury, CT 06702

1 THE COURT: We are on the record in the three
2 related Lafftery versus Jones matters. Lead docket
3 number Waterbury CV186046436. I'm going to ask counsel
4 to please identify themselves for the record.

5 ATTY. MATTEI: Good morning, your Honor. Chris
6 Mattei on behalf of the plaintiffs. With me is my
7 colleague Matt Blumenthal.

8 THE COURT: Good morning.

9 ATTY. PATTIS: Norm Pattis on behalf of Mr. Jones,
10 Free Speech Systems, Judge. Good morning.

11 THE COURT: Good morning.

12 ATTY. WILLIAMS: Good morning, your Honor. John
13 Williams with a special appearance on behalf of
14 Mr. Jones.

15 THE COURT: Good morning. So I think I may be
16 able to avoid the first issue with respect to the
17 objection for the media request. Mr. Ferraro, have you
18 seen any members of the media here today?

19 THE CLERK: There's one but nobody who had
20 requested to record.

21 THE COURT: Okay. So in light of the fact that no
22 one is here, I can avoid that issue.

23 THE CLERK: Your Honor, I apologize. I do think
24 the Connecticut Public Radio person is on his way. He
25 called me and asked about the address but I don't see
26 him yet.

27 THE COURT: All right. I'm not going to delay the

1 proceedings for that, so he will not be able to film
2 today. Okay.

3 So this may be less than five minutes or we may be
4 here all day depending on how this works. So my first
5 question and this is really a yes or a no or an I don't
6 know. That's what I want. I don't want long
7 explanations. I'm not looking for argument, just a yes
8 or a no or I don't know. I'll start with Attorney
9 Mattei and then I will ask Attorney Pattis.

10 So my question is, whether the bankruptcy court
11 granted a motion to extend the bankruptcy stay to Alex
12 Jones who has not filed for bankruptcy? So Attorney
13 Mattei, yes, no or I don't know?

14 ATTY. MATTEI: No, your Honor.

15 THE COURT: Okay. Attorney Pattis, do you agree
16 or disagree with that, sir?

17 ATTY. PATTIS: Neither. I don't know is my
18 answer.

19 THE COURT: Okay. I'm happy to pass the matter
20 since your client would know, I assume, since you're
21 representing your client. Would you like me to pass it
22 for a few minutes and we can make a call?

23 ATTY. PATTIS: He's testifying today. I tried to
24 reach him yesterday, a per your order and was
25 unsuccessful. I don't know if I can reach his trial
26 counsel but I'll try.

27 THE COURT: I know that you had mentioned, I think

1 you had reached out to Mr. Stuckel actually since
2 Mr. Ferraro was getting back from his Italy trip, with
3 respect to having bankruptcy counsel use the link to
4 watch it on Microsoft Teams so, I assume, they're
5 available.

6 ATTY. PATTIS: I assume so too.

7 THE COURT: So maybe they would be the ones that
8 you could try to reach. And I just simply want to know
9 whether the bankruptcy court granted a motion to extend
10 the bankruptcy stay to Alex Jones who, to my knowledge,
11 has not filed bankruptcy.

12 ATTY. PATTIS: I will find out, Judge.

13 THE COURT: Okay. So we'll take a five-minute
14 recess. Thank you.

15 (Whereupon, there was a recess.)

16 THE COURT: You could be seated. That was quick,
17 Attorney Pattis.

18 ATTY. PATTIS: It still took two phone calls.

19 THE COURT: And the answer?

20 ATTY. PATTIS: No such motion was filed,
21 therefore, no such motion is granted.

22 THE COURT: Thank you.

23 So the automatic stay that is in effect as to Free
24 Speech System, LLC who filed for bankruptcy, I believe,
25 on Friday, does not automatically extend to solvent
26 codefendants even where they are similarly legal or
27 factually, so and I don't see that any motion for stay

1 has been filed here.

2 I'm going to next turn to the, I have to say
3 untimely cross claim. I will give Attorney Williams an
4 opportunity to be heard but I do want to start out by
5 saying that it is, everyone has their responsibilities
6 and obligations in this case. And one of my
7 responsibilities is to maintain the orderly procedure
8 of the court docket and cases and to prevent any
9 interference with the fair administration of justice.

10 And my concern here, Mr. Williams, and I'll give
11 you as much time as you need to respond, is that the
12 cross claim is untimely, improper, and that it delays
13 the trial. And so I am considering using my statutory
14 authority and inherent authority in sua sponte
15 dismissing or striking the claim at this time. So I'm
16 happy to have you be heard.

17 I do want to mention one thing before I forget is
18 that your appearance, you're going to need to correct
19 your appearance because your appearance, you didn't use
20 the right form. There's a specific form that has to be
21 used for limited appearance and that form has different
22 language on it then the standard appearance form that
23 we're all used to. So, for example, in the limited
24 appearance form you only agree to accept service on
25 your particular issue. So I do want to tell you that
26 right now you are in for Mr. Jones full force and that
27 you'll need to correct that probably by way of a motion

1 or whatever you think is appropriate.

2 But in any event, let me hear you with respect to
3 your cross claim.

4 ATTY. WILLIAMS: Your Honor, your Honor has raised
5 as I understand it and I apologize my hearing leaves a
6 lot to be desired but as I understand it, your Honor
7 has raised the question of untimeliness and
8 specifically as I look at the docket, there's no notice
9 of closed pleadings. The case is proceeding as I
10 understand it as a hearing in damages. It seems to me
11 that the cross claim is completely collateral to that.
12 There should not in any way have an impact on this
13 trial and in deed is the sort of thing that might well
14 be deferred until the end of the trial.

15 So if I have done something, your Honor used the
16 word improper, if I did something that was improper, I
17 can only tell your Honor it was certainly not my
18 intention and I apologize to the court for any offense
19 that I have given to you or inconvenience to anybody
20 else. It was in no way my intention.

21 THE COURT: No offense taken but we just need to
22 follow the rules, that's all. So I raise the issue of
23 the untimeliness being improper and form and the delay
24 that it would work on the trial. Is there anything
25 else that you wanted to add?

26 ATTY. WILLIAMS: Well, your Honor, I didn't
27 believe that it was untimely. But obviously the Free

1 Speech Systems I would have expected would oppose that
2 if they felt that it was untimely. Your Honor, as
3 again said it's improper, I don't understand in what
4 way it would be improper except that I didn't request
5 your permission, which I didn't understand was required
6 and I didn't believe it would have any impact on the
7 case.

8 I have read the motion to strike. Counsel there
9 indicates that --

10 THE COURT: You're ahead of me Mr. Williams
11 because I haven't read it but --

12 ATTY. WILLIAMS: I didn't hear you, your Honor.

13 THE COURT: I said you're ahead of me because I
14 didn't read the motion to strike because it would now
15 require us to engage in pleading practice, request
16 to -- motion to strike, answer, special defenses,
17 motions for summary judgment and obviously we're down
18 for jury selection today.

19 ATTY. WILLIAMS: Well, your Honor, all I can say
20 is that I did not intend any -- to do anything
21 improper. I thought I was proceeding appropriately.
22 If I wasn't, I can only say that I am humbly apologetic
23 to the court.

24 THE COURT: So I don't -- when I say untimely, and
25 please be seated if you like or remain standing
26 wherever you're most comfortable. But when I say
27 untimely, it was filed well beyond the close of

1 pleadings deadline and the operative scheduling order.
2 I can't even find the last scheduling order, it's so
3 old. And the deadline for the close of pleadings has
4 long passed. It was not listed in the joint trial
5 management report which was ordered to be filed. It
6 wasn't filed when the Jones defendants filed their
7 denials with their notice of defenses and their special
8 defenses and it's obviously filed on the eve of trial.

9 And when I say improper, I don't mean that you,
10 sir, did anything, you know, improperly to offend the
11 court by any means, so please don't think that. But
12 what you would need to do with such a pleading is file
13 either a request to file the pleading, you know, beyond
14 the deadlines, file a motion with it, file a motion to
15 amend pleadings, something because otherwise, nothing
16 would prevent you from in the middle of evidence, you
17 or anyone else just dropping a pleading in the file and
18 expecting the parties and the court to adjudicate it.
19 So, we can't just have generally what we say with an
20 answer is an answer in cross claim or an answer in
21 counterclaim, certainly there was no answer here given
22 the default but there was the denial and the notice as
23 the defenses and the special defenses and I would have
24 expected it bare minimum to have it filed then.

25 And, you know, with respect to the delay, it would
26 delay the trial as it was filed five days before jury
27 selection. So I have to say that Mr. Jones is not in

1 compliance with his obligations to plead in accordance
2 with our rules of practice and the scheduling order.

3 So pursuant to Connecticut General Statute 52-97
4 and Connecticut Practice Book Section 10-21, the cause
5 of action set forth in the untimely cross claim cannot
6 conveniently be heard with the main complaint. And the
7 issues raised on the cross claim, even had the cross
8 claim been timely and properly filed, do not arise out
9 of the transaction which is the subject of the
10 plaintiff's complaint, which is required by Practice
11 Book 10-10.

12 For example, one of the basis for relief is an
13 injunction requiring someone from Free Speech Systems
14 to attend the trial. So in short, it would be
15 impossible to hear and adjudicate the cross claim given
16 that jury selection starts today as it cannot
17 conveniently be heard with the main complaint.

18 So for these reasons, the court directs that the
19 cross claim be deleted or dismissed from this case and,
20 of course, nothing prevents Mr. Jones from filing a
21 separate action and if that does occur in the normal
22 course of business, the parties will be at notice that
23 the court will exercise jurisdiction over that matter
24 and bring it to this docket. That is the most
25 efficient way to proceed. But it will not be part of
26 this present case.

27 ATTY. WILLIAMS: Thank you, your Honor.

1 THE COURT: You're welcome.

2 So I have a couple of housekeeping matters. I was
3 happy to see that you could agree on the number of
4 alternates which I understand was four and that you had
5 a total of five challenges, but I wasn't sure how you
6 were breaking it down. Are you doing four and one or
7 three and two?

8 ATTY. MATTEI: We agree that they be unrestricted,
9 your Honor.

10 THE COURT: I will not, that I will not agree too.
11 I stick with the statute. I like that statute.

12 ATTY. MATTEI: My proposal then, Judge and I --

13 THE COURT: Why don't you discuss it off the
14 record and then let me know if you have an agreement on
15 it. Okay. Thank you.

16 Mr. Pattis, there was one and I didn't pull it up,
17 but there was going to be one late motion in limine.
18 You had an attorney in your office who was not
19 available to file it due to some health issues. And
20 I'm not sure if that was a motion in limine on behalf
21 of Mr. Jones and Free Speech Systems or just Free
22 Speech Systems because if it is on behalf of Mr. Jones,
23 it's well past filing, so what would you suggest?

24 ATTY. PATTIS: It was both, but we're not going to
25 file it now.

26 THE COURT: Okay.

27 ATTY. PATTIS: He did not get out of the hospital

1 yet.

2 THE COURT: Sorry to hear that.

3 ATTY. PATTIS: Yeah, as are we.

4 Given the law of the case and the way things seem
5 to be evolving given the motion practice we can address
6 that interest in the other motions that are to be
7 argued later.

8 THE COURT: Very good.

9 ATTY. PATTIS: So there will not be another --

10 THE COURT: And then I looked last night and I
11 thought yesterday was the deadlines for the replies to
12 the objections to the motions in limine, I saw the
13 plaintiffs' replies, are you not filing replies or are
14 you planning on filing them today because they were due
15 yesterday?

16 And again, I don't know if they're just are
17 directed to Free Speech Systems and of course we're not
18 adjudicating that now.

19 ATTY. PATTIS: I have been advised by bankruptcy
20 counsel that the stay binds my hands as to Free Speech
21 Systems, and that I cannot act on his behalf it would
22 act as his peril. They would pertain to both, so I
23 took the position that the stay was applicable as to
24 that. I understand -- I'm here as to your order and I
25 don't mean to be defiant, but I've been told I act at
26 my peril if I act as to Free Speech Systems.

27 THE COURT: So you don't want to act on behalf of

1 Mr. Jones in filing replies since you do represent
2 Mr. Jones and Mr. Jones is a nondebtor and there's no
3 stay at this point? Listen, I'm not saying that at any
4 point the bankruptcy counsel can't file a motion in
5 bankruptcy court and have the stay extended to
6 Mr. Jones but right now, you're telling me that's why I
7 asked, that's why I started --

8 ATTY. PATTIS: No, I understand.

9 THE COURT: -- but there is no stay that extends
10 to Mr. Jones.

11 ATTY. PATTIS: But there is as to a party that I
12 represent so I feel like I have a conflict at this
13 point, because I'm told I can't act with respect to one
14 and should act with respect to others and now I'm in a
15 position where I've got to parse what to do with
16 respect to each and that strikes me as that sort of
17 1.73 issue that I would need a little bit more time,
18 not an infinite amount of time to address.

19 And, you know, the issue you raised about whether
20 they should file the stay to extend to Mr. Jones that
21 hadn't occurred to me, I'm not a bankruptcy -- I had
22 altercate hands.

23 THE COURT: Well, I think the law is clear that
24 when one defendant in a case files for bankruptcy it
25 doesn't automatically extend to all other defendants
26 even if they are similarly factually or legally and you
27 would have to move in bankruptcy court to extend the

1 stay.

2 Now last time we had this issue when Info Wars and
3 Prison Planet maybe, when they filed for bankruptcy, we
4 had the exact same situation and I believe I entered a
5 very similar order in response to that and then I think
6 what happened and you correct me if I'm wrong, I think
7 that you removed the remaining case to bankruptcy
8 court. So that it wasn't so much --

9 ATTY. PATTIS: I understand that.

10 THE COURT: So here I didn't see and I checked
11 before I came out on the record, I didn't see any
12 removal to bankruptcy court of the pending claims and I
13 didn't see anything about a stay.

14 ATTY. PATTIS: I was instructed not to file
15 removal papers by bankruptcy counsel for reasons of
16 their own that I didn't inquire as to. And so I am
17 left in this awkward position now where if we proceed
18 as to Jones but not as to Free Speech that operates
19 almost constructively as a severance and I believe the
20 law is clear that a severance that adversely affects a
21 debtor is prohibited once the debtor is in bankruptcy.

22 So it's my request that and it's my understanding
23 that, I don't know if it's Houston, I don't recall what
24 city in Texas, in the Texas bankruptcy court there's a
25 hearing Friday morning with respect to the plaintiff's
26 emergency motion for relief from stay.

27 THE COURT: But that emergency motion is a relief

1 from stay as to the debtor, Free Speech Systems --

2 ATTY. PATTIS: Right.

3 THE COURT: -- we are all on the same page here.
4 Everyone is on the same page. They're under federal
5 bankruptcy law which, I believe me, respect. There is
6 an automatic stay as to the debtor, Free Speech
7 Systems, LLC. If you told me this is why I started
8 asking this question, if you said to me, yes -- because
9 I tried to look last night and I could not access the
10 through Pacer the records or I would have cancelled
11 this if I saw that it was extended. As I'm
12 understanding it, clearly there's no doubt that there
13 was no extension of that stay to the solvent remaining
14 defendant Mr. Jones, nor has such a motion been filed,
15 so there is an active claim right now against Alex
16 Jones. There's causes of action and we're down for
17 jury selection.

18 So, I can't, you know, I can't solve for you what
19 instructions you're getting from your client or
20 bankruptcy counsel but I have a remaining claim, but I
21 understand from what you're telling me it's your
22 position, well you can tell me your position why don't
23 you.

24 ATTY. PATTIS: I'm asking for a recess until a
25 motion is heard on Friday. I find myself in a position
26 where I cannot satisfy my obligations to both clients.
27 Mr. Jones expects a defense as does Free Speech.

1 I am told Free Speech the action will not proceed
2 as to they may or may not have identical interest in
3 every instance but I don't see how I can proceed as to
4 one client and not the other.

5 THE COURT: So and then let's just hypothetically
6 say that we either didn't pick until Friday and Friday
7 the motion is heard and the motion it's a motion to --

8 ATTY. PATTIS: For relief from stay.

9 THE COURT: Okay, let's say that --

10 ATTY. PATTIS: That's my understanding of it. I
11 haven't filed it.

12 THE COURT: So let's say that's denied and so the
13 stay is in effect as to Free Speech System.

14 ATTY. PATTIS: At this point, Judge, I would be in
15 touch with bankruptcy counsel saying you left me
16 hanging here without a motion for an application as to
17 Jones or a removal, the trial court takes the position
18 that its capable -- that as a matter of law it would be
19 appropriate to proceed with Mr. Jones and I might have
20 to seek independent ethic's counsel advice because I'm
21 starting to feel a 1.73 (inaudible) because I'm now in
22 a position where I can meet the needs of one client but
23 not the other in a proceeding and I've not been in this
24 position before.

25 THE COURT: Attorney Mattei.

26 ATTY. MATTEI: Your Honor, what I see Attorney
27 Pattis be doing is asking for making an oral motion for

1 continuance for jury selection. We oppose that motion
2 for continuance. Mr. Jones is more than adequate
3 represented in bankruptcy court in Houston. They are
4 well aware of this jury selection. They actually filed
5 a motion to lift the stay as to the ongoing trial in
6 Texas. And so they're well aware of the implications
7 that --

8 THE COURT: So that -- excuse me. The motion to
9 lift the stay was as to the debtor?

10 ATTY. MATTEI: As to the debtor Free Speech
11 Systems. And so they're more than aware of occasions
12 of not moving the stay with respect to Mr. Jones,
13 they've not done that knowing that jury selection is
14 scheduled for today.

15 The bankruptcy, which was filed on Friday,
16 Mr. Pattis has had the weekend and now Monday to
17 investigate the extent to which any conflict prevents
18 him from proceeding today on behalf of Mr. Jones. But
19 the facts of the case establishes that there is no
20 conflict and there can be no conflict because Mr. Jones
21 and Free Speech Systems are all egos to one another.
22 They have been represented by the same counsel
23 throughout. There's no suggestion or evidence that any
24 position taken by Mr. Jones here would be adverse to a
25 company that he 100 percent controls, Free Speech
26 Systems.

27 And so there's just no basis to grant a

1 continuanace here where Mr. Jones is the one that has
2 manufactured this situation on the eve of jury
3 selection to prevent us from going forward. So we want
4 to proceed today with jury selection.

5 THE COURT: So here's what I would say, we are
6 going to proceed but if and when a motion is granted in
7 the bankruptcy court, that extends the stay to
8 Mr. Jones, the court needs to be notified immediately
9 and we will cease activity because that would then stay
10 the claim against Mr. Jones as well. But short of
11 that, listen I suppose Mr. Jones could file for
12 bankruptcy and that would stay the rest of the case
13 under federal law or the bankruptcy court can extend
14 the stay to Mr. Jones.

15 So if either one of those happens, I'm sure you'll
16 let me know immediately and we will stop our
17 proceedings.

18 All right. So we're going to start jury selection
19 at 10:00. Just as a reminder please no snapshots or
20 screen shots or whatever you want to call it of the
21 jury confidential jury questionnaires. Anyone who --
22 so if your clients are here at any point either during
23 jury selection or trial the trial will be in the
24 courtroom next door.

25 But during jury selection and during trial anyone
26 who's seated at counsel table or in the well of the
27 courtroom would have to wait for a recess to leave or

1 you can leave in between jurors if you understand what
2 I'm saying. I don't want people in the well of the
3 courtroom getting up and leaving in the middle of the
4 voir dire, if they're in the well of the courtroom.
5 Now people in the gallery they can come and go as they
6 please but for trial as well, if we're not in a recess
7 any of your clients or other lawyers that are in the
8 well of the courtroom would have to wait for recess. I
9 don't want people coming and going. But if there's any
10 believe me any need for a quick break because someone
11 needs to leave or you have an emergency or whatever,
12 I'm happy to take another recess, so you just let me
13 know and ask for a recess and I'm sure we'll take a
14 recess. I just don't want any commotion.

15 During the -- I am going to remain on the bench at
16 least for the immediate future. I don't have any other
17 conflicts right now. I don't know if that's going to
18 remain the whole time but the juror, potential juror
19 will sit next to me up here. I don't know if you want,
20 I guess, Mr. Ferraro, maybe we can move the lectern up
21 for the lawyers.

22 THE CLERK: Wherever counsel wants to.

23 THE COURT: Why don't you discuss where you want
24 it but I'm telling you now I want you to give the
25 jurors space. I don't want you leaving that lectern
26 area and clouding the jurors and I'm going to say the
27 same thing for witnesses as well. So I don't want

1 anybody invading their space.

2 So here's what I would say on the replies to the
3 motions in limine by Mr. Jones. If Mr. Jones wishes,
4 he's not ordered to, he doesn't have to but if he
5 wishes to file replies to the motions in limine, and
6 that was due yesterday, Mr. Jones will have until the
7 end of business tomorrow to file his replies if he
8 wants to.

9 I'm prepared to go on the introduction to the
10 panel. I have, thank you, I have all the information
11 that you gave us with respect to the parties and the
12 witnesses and so forth. So I think for the
13 introduction to the panel, you're going to be very
14 brief. You're just going to simply say who you are and
15 what other lawyers are with you and if you want to
16 mention if you have clients here or not, that's fine.
17 But I don't want to hear anything beyond that, no
18 description of the case. It's going to be very very
19 brief otherwise I am going to cut you off. That's not
20 the opportunity to start any further details.

21 All right. So we will be back right at 10:00 p.m.
22 for jury selection.

23 ATTY. MATTEI: Your Honor, I'm sorry. One
24 housekeeping matter. I sent to Mr. Stuckel this
25 morning a proposed revised description of the case for
26 the court to consider giving to the jury in light of
27 the fact we now only have one defendant for whom we are

1 picking. The initial jointly agreed upon statement
2 referred to both defendants and I sent the revision to
3 Mr. Stuckel. Attorney Pattis I spoke to him
4 beforehand, he indicated that he objects so I just want
5 to flag the court given that right now we are only
6 picking with respect to Mr. Jones.

7 THE COURT: Well, I planned on deleting Free
8 Speech Systems in the language as a defendant. I
9 understand that you're objecting basically, Attorney
10 Pattis, even going forward into the proceeding and such
11 but do you have any suggestions on the proposed
12 language or not?

13 ATTY. PATTIS: Yes. I don't believe the court can
14 refer to Free Speech Systems. I don't think the court
15 can refer to Mr. Jones as acting through Free Speech
16 Systems without adversely affecting Free Speech Systems
17 in violation of the stay, so that's the basis of my
18 disagreement.

19 If the court's going to proceed as to Mr. Jones I
20 think it should delete reference to Free Speech Systems
21 from the proposed joint statement.

22 ATTY. MATTEI: I just in response regardless of
23 Free Speech Systems status that fact is established as
24 a result of fault not, so there's not any question that
25 that is true to be evidence in the case regardless of
26 whether Free Speech --

27 ATTY. PATTIS: That will be a litigated issue

1 whether he'll be evidence, we think any evidence to
2 that effect would be in violation of the stay because
3 it acts to the detriment of Free Speech Systems while
4 it's --

5 THE COURT: I think we can be very clear in our
6 preliminary instructions and our jury instructions that
7 this case is proceeding only as to Mr. Jones
8 individually so I'm not concerned that they're going to
9 be confused. So if you can't come up with your own
10 language I'm more than capable of coming up with my own
11 language. Okay.

12 ATTY. WILLIAMS: Your Honor, may I be excused?

13 THE COURT: Well, Mr. Williams, sure but you're
14 going to have to file --

15 ATTY. WILLIAMS: A motion to withdraw.

16 THE COURT: Unless you can somehow assure me as an
17 officer of the court that Mr. Jones retained you solely
18 for the purposes of the cross claim and not for any
19 other reason. Because I explained to you the issue.

20 ATTY. WILLIAMS: I understand.

21 THE COURT: And I don't want to be hasty and make
22 mistakes and informally let you out of the case if in
23 fact that's not true.

24 ATTY. WILLIAMS: Your Honor, I assure you as an
25 officer of the court that that was the sole purpose
26 that he retained me and I have no other interest in
27 this case whatsoever.

1 THE COURT: All right. Do you agree with that,
2 Attorney Pattis?

3 ATTY. PATTIS: I reviewed the papers and I agree.

4 THE COURT: I'm sorry.

5 ATTY. PATTIS: I've reviewed the engagement
6 letter, I agree that there's no ambiguity with respect
7 to that.

8 THE COURT: So your client, Mr. Jones, is not
9 going to object if I informally let Mr. Williams out.

10 ATTY. PATTIS: On behalf of Mr. Jones, I'll make
11 that representation.

12 THE COURT: And Attorney Mattei, you don't want to
13 be heard on this, correct?

14 ATTY. MATTEI: No, your Honor.

15 THE COURT: All right. So ordered.

16 ATTY. WILLIAMS: Thank you, your Honor.

17 THE COURT: We'll take a recess.

18 (Whereupon, there was a recess.)

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10 WILLIAM SHERLACH
11 V.
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13 E L E C T R O N I C
14 C E R T I F I C A T I O N

15 I hereby certify the electronic version is a true and
16 correct transcription of the audio recording of the
17 above-referenced case, heard in Superior Court, G.A. 4 of
18 Waterbury, Connecticut before the Honorable Barbara N. Bellis,
19 Judge, on August 2, 2022.

20 Dated this 2nd day of August, 2022 in Waterbury,
21 Connecticut.

22
23
24
25 _____
26 Debbie A. Ellis
27 Court Recording Monitor